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Message Text

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20
ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 H-03 EB-11

COME-00 SS-15 INT-08 AGR-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

USIA-15 ACDA-19 CG-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 JUSE-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 SCI-06 STR-08 DRC-01 OIC-04 /205 W
---------- 068734
R 120648Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1906
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10914

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS OCON XN PFOR US UR
SUBJECT: FISHERIES: ICNAF

OTTAWA POUCH HALIFAX

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REF: A. STATE 166742; B. STATE 167508; C. MOSCOW 10454

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1. SCIATT MET SEPT 11 WITH B.G. KUTAKOV AND O.V. BAKHURIN
OF USSR MINFISH TO PURSUE ICNAF FISHERIES QUESTION AS FOLLOW-
UP TO CHARGE'S REPRESENTATION REPORTED REF C. KUTAKOV HAD STUDIED
MEMCON OF CHARGE'S DEMARCHE AS WELL AS COPY OF SECRETARY'S
LETTER (REF A), BOTH OF WHICH HE HAD ON DESK BEFORE
HIM, AND INDICATED THAT THE MATTER HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH
"COMPETENT" SPECIALISTS WITHIN MINISTRY. NON-PAPER DRAWING
UPON PARAS 2-6, AND 8 OF REF B WAS LEFT WITH KUTAKOV. ORAL
DISCUSSION INCLUDED ALSO PARAS 7 AND 9(E) OF REF B.

2. KUTAKOV ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOVIET FISHERIES EXPERTS
REGARD QUESTION RAISED IN SECRETARY'S LETTER AS "SERIOUS
PROBLEM REQUIRING SERIOUS STUDY" AND CONCEDED THAT FISH
STOCKS IN ICNAF AREAS CONCERNED MUST BE "RATIONALLY AND
SCIENTIFICALLY" EXPLOITED, JUST AS ALL OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES.
HE ADDED THAT HE PERSONALLY WAS WELL VERSED IN VALUE OF
QUOTA-FISHERIES, BECAUSE HE HAD STUDIED UNDER PROFESSOR
BORANOV, WHO IN 1912-1914 WAS FIRST TO DEVELOP THEORY OF
QUOTAS. AS IN PAST DISCUSSIONS OF THIS SUBJECT WITH MINFISH
OFFICIALS, ARGUMENT OF KUTAKOV PREDICTABLY CENTERED ON VALIDITY
OF SCIENTIFIC DATA. HE CAREFULLY AVOIDED ANY
INDICATION OF SOVIET SUPPORT FOR US POSITION, BUT SAID THAT
SOVIET SCIENTISTS (BOGDANOV) ARE THOROUGHLY STUDYING ALL
US PROPOSALS AND RESULTS OF COPENHAGEN ICNAF MEETING IN
PREPARATION FOR OTTAWA SPECIAL MEETING. HE ADDED THAT PRIMARY
TASK, IN SOVIET VIEW, IS TO EVALUATE SCIENTIFIC
DATA BEFORE TAKING ANY CONCRETE ACTIONS. HE SAID THAT DATA
USED SHOULD NOT BE THOSE OF ANY ONE COUNTRY (MEANING U.S.)
BUT THOSE THAT ARE AGREED UPON BY ALL MEMBERS OF ICNAF.
ACCORDING TO KUTAKOV, U.S. FIGURES NOW BEING COMPARED WITH
THOSE OF USSR AND OTHER COUNTRIES. SCIATT EMPHASIZED AGAIN
THAT ICNAF CANNOT CONTINUE BEGGING THE QUESTION OF OVERFISHING
AND STOCK DEPLETION IN THE FACE OF RELAIBLE DATA THAT ALREADY
SHOW A CRISIS SITUATION THAT DEMANDS URGENT AND IMMEDIATE
RECOGNITION AND SOLUTION, NOT ONLY FOR SAKE OF US OR USSR
BUT FOR SAKE OF WORLD PROTEIN SUPPLY. KUTAKOV SAID THAT SOVIET
SIDE REMAINS FLEXIBLE AND SOVDEL TO OTTAWA MEETING WILL BE
PREPARED TO DISCUSS MATTER OBJECTIVELY WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE
OF FACTS, OF ISSUES INVOLVED, AND OF US OBJECTIVES. AT PRESENT,
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HOWEVER, QUESTION IS STILL UNDER STUDY.

3. RE PARA 7 REF B, KUTAKOV CLAIMED THAT MINFISH HAD VERY
CLOSE CONTAACTS WITH GDR FISHERIES OFFICIALS AND THAT MATTER
WOULD BE BROUGHT TO GDR ATTENTION. KUTAKOV ADDED THAT USSR
WOULD SUPPORT GDR MEMBERSHIP IN ICNAF AND HOPED THAT US
WOULD GIVE PROPER CONSIDERATION TO ANY GDR APPLICATION.

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4 AS CURRENTLY PLANNED, SOVDEL WILL BE LED BY DEPUTY
MINISTER KAMENTSEV AND WILL INCLUDE BOGDANOV AND VOLKOV.
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